

# The Pittsylvania Packet

Spring 1996



No. 20

Pittsylvania Historical Society  
Chatham, Virginia

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Your Prexy has spent half his time traveling this quarter, so he did not produce much for the benefit of the Society. Included was a month's stay on the Island of Malta in the Mediterranean. He was accompanying his wife on a writing project.

This was followed by a trip to Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas as a part of a family reunion. While on this jaunt, we paid a surprise visit to two PHS members living in Garden City, Kansas. It will come as no surprise to inform you that both Olga Montgomery and Genevieve Hertel, who have roots in Pittsylvania County, were on duty at the Finney County Historical Society Museum there. We had a most enjoyable visit with these two charming and dedicated history lovers plus a tour of this remarkable museum. We recommend a stop and a visit to the museum by any of you PHS members who happen to be in that area in the future. You will enjoy seeing the Native American exhibit which has several amazing displays of arrowheads, flint tools, spear points, etc. These are collections donated or willed to the museum by several skilled locals. Permanent exhibits portray the history of the Kansas plains which features the buffalo, the cattle industry and the "Dust Bowl." They will intrigue you and so will the quilting and WWII exhibits.

High on your president's priority list are the expediting of some much needed repairs on the Society's historic buildings. Meanwhile, if you have any suggestions on how to make this historical society a better one, please let it be known via Box 1148, Chatham, VA 24531.

## THE MAY MEETING

The regular meeting on May 20th could be the most fun-filled meeting of the year. You can bet that there will be toe tapping and foot-stomping to the music of Pickeral's Crossing Band. It is genuine country and therefore rooted in Pittsylvania County's unique and varied culture. The location will be at the Town Park behind the 1813 Clerk's Office. Bring your lawn chairs for comfort and participate in this colorful event.

All members of the PHS should know about Pickeral's Crossing. In case you do not, *The Packet* wishes to inform you that it is at a point some four miles west of Gretna at which the historic old Franklin & Pittsylvania Railroad crossed County Route 672 leading to Pittsville. The small village of Pickeral sat there during the time the F & P huffed and puffed its way to and fro Rocky Mount via Pittsville, Toshes, Sandy Level, etc. Please attend and help welcome Jack Mason and Pickeral's Crossing Band. Our thanks to Frances Hurt and Buddy Overbey for providing this program.

P.S. Come prepared to pay your dues if you are in arrears.

# The Origin of Pittsylvania's Kudzu: The County's Civilian Conservation Corps

By Preston B. Moses

I reluctantly confess that I am one of the 15 CCC culprits who planted the first sprigs - or crowns - of a damnable Japanese vine in Pittsylvania County, Virginia way back in 1934.

This innocent looking vine has since spread over the largest county in Virginia and also around to many other Virginia Counties. It also infested many other states since that first insidious planting way back 62 years ago.

You ask...What in the world is the name of this biological plague. I will tell you. It is KUDZU!

But wait. Before I tell you the "Kudzu Story," permit me to explain how I personally became involved with it in the first place.

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The year 1934 followed on the heels of the great depression of 1929-31. The USA still hadn't recovered from the effects that left this county and country very impoverished.

I came home in 1932 after finishing at Duke University. I was able to only find parttime jobs such as substituting teaching in the public school or working as time-keeper on a three month PWA sewer project.

Franklin Roosevelt became President in 1932, and he invented the "New Deal" program to cope with the Great Depression that gripped the country. FDR organized a plan to help provide work for the great horde of unemployed at that time.

One of President Roosevelt's new deal projects was the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC camps were set up in various parts of the country to provide meaningful employment for the countless young people who were without work and were hopelessly walking the streets.

The CCC camps were established similarly to Army standards. They enabled the young men who were enrollees to work at pilot projects such as soil conservation and erosion control, reforestation and environmental plans.

Pittsylvania County was chosen as a site for a CCC camp which was built near Grubb's old grist mill in the wide Banister River watershed.

The rolling hills of the area west of Chatham with its red clay soil was an ideal area to carry out a soil conservation and erosion control pilot project.

The CCC camp enrollees, as they were called, furnished the manpower to do ditching, plant trees, do terracing, clear clogged streams, build erosion check-dams, clear land for meadow strips, and any other handiwork that came under the definition of conservation and erosion control.

I was very much in need of work and a job, so I joined the CCC camp. The camp here was operated very much along the pattern of Army guidelines. In fact, an old Army First Sergeant whom I remember as "Cap," was in charge and operated it by the "book."

We housed in regular Army type barracks, ate in the mess hall, reveille was 5:30 a.m., and we did regular Army calisthenics.

After early breakfast, the enrollees were divided into work crews, then piled onto trucks and headed to the countryside to work on farms that had been signed up for the soil erosion pilot project. As the enrollees embarked from the trucks, each was handed a pick and a shovel.

The CCC soil erosion project in the county was under the purview of Virginia Tech Institute (VPI), a technical and agricultural university.

The CCC work crews were under the supervision of Virginia Tech students, all of whom were seniors in agronomy or were majoring in some phase of agriculture. The students were assigned to the Pittsylvania camp as foremen.

The VPI seniors took their foremanships seriously, and pushed the CCC enrollees trying to set work records of accomplishments.

I remember these seniors walked around like slave-drivers and acted like four-star generals with an air of superiority. (I don't think any of us enrollees liked them.)

The Pittsylvania CCC camp had 200 enrollees, all young men (ages 21-28) from Pennsylvania. I was the only southerner in the bunch.

Each enrollee was compensated \$90 per month which was a heckuva lot of money during those depression years. However, practically all of it was automatically sent home to mom and pop. The enrollee received a small amount for pocket change to be used for picture show (5 cents), soda pop (5 cents), bar of candy (5 cents), postage stamps, (2 cents), etc.

We enrollees didn't think of receiving the compensation as hand-outs, but rather as a salary for the useful work performed. It was really hard work; not a play job.

In the afternoons after returning from the work on the farms, the enrollees had time for supervised sports such as baseball, basketball, volleyball. Enrollees were also assigned to a certain amount of work details around the camp such as K-P duty in the mess hall, mopping and cleaning the barracks, etc.

At night there were classes in reading, writing and vocational training, lectures on health care. Saturdays and Sundays we had religious services and moving picture shows and some free time.

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Here it is 62 years later, and I still believe the CCC camps were a good idea. It would work today to help young people to get focused on the work ethics. These sort of camps will give young people the opportunities to perform useful tasks, and at the same time teach the youths the meaning of discipline and how to work together in fellowship.

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Now permit me to tell you how Kudzu and I got involved in the story about the CCC camp in Pittsylvania County, VA.

As explained earlier, the CCC camp was located in this area at the suggestion of the U.S. Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. The purpose was to cope with the soil erosion problem that existed in the western portion of the county.

The Virginia Tech Agricultural Department was put in charge of the project. The VPI agronomists used this land area on which to experiment with various methods of dealing with soil conservation and erosion.

The VPI agronomists decided to experiment with Kudzu. It was introduced as a Japanese legume, deep-rooted long lived, fast growing vine.

It was recommended by the Japanese to control erosion, excellent for reclaiming gullies and wastelands. It was said to be especially useful for its long runners for covering badly washed hillsides and eroded pastures.

It was claimed that Kudzu was valuable for forage - and it was said that cattle loved to graze on it.

It was early in the Spring of 1934 VPI sent a truck load of Kudzu sprigs or crowns as they were called to be planted by the CCC enrollees in an eroded area north of Pigg River near Sandy Level.

I confess I was a member of the 15 member crew assigned to do the actual planting of the Kudzu "crowns."

I vividly recall the day we enrollees arrived at the farm of Dr. M.E. Mease which borders along U.S. Route 40.

Each of us was given a small shovel and a basket of Kudzu crowns. We were directed to a large pasture on a hillside, badly eroded by small gullies.

We planted the little Kudzu crowns after opening a small hole in the ground - sticking the root in it, and pushing the soil back around the plant. We moved on to set out the crowns in rows across the pasture. The next day we set out more crowns along the red banks of Highway Route 40.

We followed this by planting more Kudzu roots in other eroded parts of the county.

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The Japanese failed to warn the Virginia Tech agronomists that if left unattended Kudzu becomes a real pest. In sections of Pittsylvania, "pest" is a mild word for what citizens call this insidious vine - that birds have helped to spread by their droppings.

Kudzu spreads so rapidly that some say you can almost see it creeping up to take over live trees and engulfing anything standing in its path. It remains dormant through the winter but springs back to renewed life early in March.

With its long runners forming new plants at each node, it spreads to attach to trees and gradually smothers them to death.

When traveling around the county, you can see whole forest of trees being suffocated by these insidious vines.

The Japanese told that cattle would love to graze on the Kudzu growing in the pastures.

But the American cows shun the Kudzu because it grows here with a coarse growing vine, long runners and stems that are woody and tough trifoliolate leaves.

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The agronomists of today are trying to undo what the VPI experts experimented with in 1934. But because Kudzu is so prolific and spreads so rapidly and puts down new plants at each node, no chemical or herbicide has been found yet to eradicate this pest.

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When I hear a landowner cussing the spreading Kudzu, I don't dare mention the fact that I was one of the CCC guys who set out the first Kudzu roots in the county, from whence all of these damnable vines have sprung...I keep mum on the subject.

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# Pittsylvania Remembrances

By Mary Jane Vaden

## Memories of a Country Store At Laurel Grove

After reading Pittsylvania Remembrances by Robert Harris, it set me to thinking of some of my own. From the age of about three to eight, I lived at Laurel Grove. My father, Luther Peyton Vaden and Mr. Harry Lewis had a large country store which my father operated. The sights and sounds and smells were like those I remember and are etched in my memory firmly.

The store was a long two story frame building with a front porch and steps to the ground. Inside, in the middle, besides the counters, etc. was a large, pot-bellied stove. There the men would gather in cold weather to gab and spit tobacco juice.

As long as the store was relatively empty, my brother, sister and I were able to come in and enjoy being there, but if a group of "rough men" came in, we were sent out of the side door to the house. This was a two-story white building located to the left of the store in a large yard in which there were beautiful huge oak trees. (I used the roots of one near the house to build doll houses using odds and ends, broken china and whatever I could find.)

The store was located on the highest point on that side of the road and the old Jones house was across the road. The last time I was through Laurel Grove, the Jones' house was still there, but our store and house have been long gone.

I do not forget a large tin sign nailed to one side of the store porch. It had ABCs on it, and that is where I learned them. Neither do I forget Mr. Vaughan's Shop down the hill on the other side from the store. He shod horses and heated metal in a forge to bend it and to make into whatever he needed. He let me watch so long as I kept a safe distance.

Neither do I forget going to Laurel Grove Baptist Church, especially Sunday School. My teacher was Miss Mildred Keeling who was crippled and had to be carried in a chair. She was a wonderful teacher from a fine family that lived at Atlas Mill. Her father, Mr. Charlie Keeling had a store there and loved children. He always had a little gift for them after he had welcomed and talked for a little while.

Other Laurel Grove family names I remember were the Dodsons, Hodneus, Milams, Grants (Pastor of Church) Roberts and Jones.

After we moved to Lunenburg County, I missed Laurel Grove for a long time but did not return to Pittsylvania County until the 1930s when I lived in Chatham working as a social worker.

Toward the end of my stay, the federal programs came into being with its applicants for old age assistance. One duty I had was documentation of age for eligibility. At that time, I became acquainted with the riches in the county clerk's office and so began my interest in genealogy...one I still enjoy.

**Editor's Note:** The Packet is pleased to welcome county native Mary Jane Vaden of Roanoke as guest writer for this section in this issue.

## The Border Book Club: Pittsylvania's Oldest Book Club

By Anne Scales Hairston Sims

A recent survey into early literary clubs of the state found fifteen organized before 1910 still active. The Border Book Club, organized in 1901 was the only one located in a largely rural area.

By the end of the nineteenth century, there was a group of women in the southwest part of Pittsylvania County who lived in manor houses on large estates inherited from colonial times. They'd attended school at Salem Academy (Winston-Salem, NC) and Edgeworth Academy (Greensboro, NC) as well as Chatham Hall (Chatham, VA) and women's colleges: Randolph-Macon (Lynchburg, VA) and Mary Baldwin (Staunton, VA). Now, they felt a need to continue studying good literature and world affairs as well as keep abreast of family affairs and socialize.

The area where they lived was close by Leaksville/Spray, NC (since incorporated into Eden, NC) where textile mills were prospering and expanding, bringing in executives from the outside whose wives also felt a need for a literary club. Thirteen ladies from these two areas met at Thornfield, home of Mrs. Joseph H. Scales on December 1, 1901 to organize The Border Book Club and to elect officers and set up By-Laws.

It was decided that the club would be limited to eighteen women any one of whom must have a unanimous vote to become a member.

Because travel by horse and buggy was difficult during the winter months, the club's year would begin the first Wednesday after Easter and would continue meeting every two weeks until each member had been hostess.

Each member would donate a book she had read, approved, and made a cloth cover for and exchange of these books would be made at each meeting based on a schedule decided upon by the members. Such "books must not be loaned - even among members."

A topic for study during the year was chosen by a committee appointed by the president. Past topics include "English Poets of the 19th Century," "Shakespeare's Plays," "Queens of Spain," "Russia," "Mexico." Each member would choose a topic within the subject to research and write on. Her paper would be read at a designated meeting - by her or, if she could not attend, by another member.

"Refreshments may be served consisting of either a meat or a sweet but not both."

Notes from minutes of early meetings include:

August 11, 1909

"Per order of the President, Mrs. Foard was fined 25 cents for lending a club book (see by-laws) as was Mrs. Mebane for the same offense."

November 30, 1910

"There was no regular meeting of The Border Book Club because the members were being entertained at a luncheon as a farewell meeting for the year...It was decided to forego the pleasure of the program as the members preferred conversation on this delightful occasion, after a most beautiful Thanksgiving luncheon was served....the members then reluctantly adjourned for the winter to meet again in the first of April, 1911 at the home of Mrs. Walker."

July 19, 1911

"Mrs. McAllister added to the interest of this fine paper (on Mexico) by telling the club about the personal career of her great-grandfather, Warren, who was a major in the Mexican War and who performed great deeds of valor."

August 23, 1911

"A very delightful meeting of The Border Book Club was held with Mrs. Rogers (Annie Perkins Scales) at Thornfield...After the long dusty drive the guests were greatly refreshed by an iced drink...The roll was called and a dozen of us responded, some with current events and some without...A most interesting program was rendered on Mexican women and children."

October 20, 1911

"Miss Lizzie Scales was hostess for the club. She honored her father on his birthday by serving Brunswick stew made in a big iron pot in the back yard by Mr. W.T. Coleman and by having some of his friends as special guests."

June 11, 1915

"Voted to have dues of 25 cents."

October 17, 1915

"A damp, bad day as the Englishmen would say. There fell intermittent showers from lowering clouds. Six ladies, members of the Ancient Order of BBC, nothing daunted, hied themselves across the border to enjoy the hospitality of Fairview as extended by Mrs. P.P. Scales..after a most interesting program and delightful refreshments, the club adjourned to meet with Mrs. W. J. Gordon, November 3. The Tar Heels turned their faces homeward."

During the World War I period, the ladies of the Club did what they could to help.

July 4, 1918

The Club was entertained at Sunnyside, the home of Mrs. A. L. French. "he President, Mrs. Pitcher, of Spray, displayed a gingham dress she had made with her own hands to save money to buy U.S. War Stamps."

The Club members filled comfort bags and one was presented to each local boy as he left for service.

September 6, 1918

Mrs. Samuel Hairston of Oak Hill was hostess. She had as her guests Miss Sims who was summering at nearby Berry Hill and Miss Day, Cleveland, Ohio. "The program consisted of letters that Admiral William Snowden Sims had written to his wife with most interesting accounts of his dinner at Buckingham Palace and his conversations with King George and the Queen and many notables. These were read by Miss Sims, his niece."

Through the years, there were members from Danville who would ride up on the morning train, the Dick and Willie. They would be met at the station with a carriage sent by the hostess and would return after the meeting on the evening train. Among these were Mrs. A. B. Carrington Sr., Mrs. Chase Wheatley, and Miss Katie Fitzgerald who formerly had lived at Willow Oaks and was one of the founding members.

Outstanding members included Mrs. Lily Morehead Mebane (a founding member) who was the first woman to be elected to the NC Legislature. She was presented at the Court of St. James, and toured war torn France and Belgium after WWI reporting on conditions on her return. In 1932, she set up the first library in Leaksville/Spray, housed in a cottage on Boone Road, near her home. Most of the first book collection was donated by members of The Border Book Club. Mrs. Laura Johns Abbott, another founding member of the club, served as its first librarian. Years later, the Rockingham County Library System was established with six branches. Miss Mary Anne Martin, a Border Book Club member was head librarian. She also organized the Rockingham County Fine Arts Association.

Although the club has changed some over the years (dues are now \$5 a year), it has continued to maintain its original purpose and character. Daughters and daughters-in-law residing in the area are invited to become members and there are second and third generation members - even one great-granddaughter of a founding member: Nancy Scales Gainer of Eden.

Meetings continue to be held in homes of members who either give their own program or invite a guest speaker. If there is a luncheon, a program may not be given. Roll call at each meeting is answered with a current event, a personal or family event or a clever joke.

The Border Book Club met on March 13, 1996 at Eden Library and selected books, scheduled hostesses for the year and conducted other business at hand. The first regular meeting was held April 10, the first Wednesday after Easter.

(The following excerpt is copied from *A Farmer's Musings* by Alfred Llewellyn French, husband of a Border Book Club member. Published in 1920 by Edwards and Broughton Printing Company in Raleigh, NC.

#### **THE BORDER BOOK CLUB**

Lucky Border, Lucky Eden  
 Lucky all, I well may say,  
 When within our charming quarter,  
 Working there so forcefully,  
 Bides this band combining wisdom,  
 Social charm - degree untold -  
 Helpfulness to those about them,  
 Promptings of their hearts of gold.  
 Storms may gather, small or mighty,  
 Evil reign, while bad men gloat  
 But this club along the border  
 Methinks will steady hold the boat.

*(EDITOR'S NOTE: The Packet is proud to note that its members include the names of some prominent ladies in The Border Book Club, an organization that has made a significant contribution to the intellectual and cultural life in Pittsylvania County.)*

**NAM ET IPSA SCIENTIA POSTESTAS EST: BORDER BOOK CLUB**

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#### **URGENT REQUEST**

Need to find descendants of Mr. A. Chatelainc, who operated a General Store on Holbrook Ave. in Danville ca. 1916. Have old Chatelaine family Bible (in bad condition) which contains some genealogy dating back to early 1800 France, plus some specimens of store invoices. Descendant may have same by submitting proper identification to Herman Melton, Box 1148, Chatham, VA 24531. Phone 804-432-2172.

# Hard Choices on the Home Front

## *Pittsylvania's Care For Indigent Families of Civil War Soldiers*

By Herman Melton

Civil War casualty lists from the Battles of Big Bethel and Malvern Hill were arriving in Pittsylvania County in the Summer of 1862. There would be bad news from the West and casualty lists from Second Manassas and Fredericksburg very shortly.

By August, most of the surplus food supply was on its way to General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia via the Richmond and Danville Railroad. Men who would normally be supervising the production of grain were at the front. Production fell, while demand increased as the situation became critical. Systems were devised to look after the families of indigent CSA volunteers and this required limiting the amounts the indigents received. They would get tougher as the war progressed.

With the above serving as a backdrop, the Justices in the Pittsylvania County Court were forced by economic need and perhaps by public clamor to "bite the bullet" and impose stricter limitations on food rations for indigents. At their August 18, 1862 meeting, the following were on duty: Joab Watson, John W. Wilson, Pleasant Waddell, John Carter, Joseph Howard, David Barker, John Hall, Asa Hodnett, Joseph Anderson, Thomas Shelton, David Snow, D. L. Ragsdale and William Carrington Tate.

The records suggest that the justices were taking note of the dependents of indigent soldiers whom they pledged to support but could no longer do so. To alleviate the situation, they decreed that "no allowance be made to the able bodied male children of indigent soldiers who have attained the age of 12 years and upwards." Female, children, regardless of age, who depended solely on the indigent soldier fathers for support were to continue receiving rations. The food allotment to each indigent soldier's wife and dependent child included eight pounds of bacon (probably more aptly described as "fat back" in modern parlance) per adult and three pounds of same for each child, or, double the quantity of beef per month.

The justices came down hard on the indigent soldier's wife who had no children that were dependent on the soldier, by cutting off her allowance. Moreover, no allowance was to be made to the families of volunteers who reside with their parents who are "able to support them."

The county fathers dealt ruthlessly with families of soldiers who were AWOL by decreeing that nothing be allowed the family of any volunteer who might be at home after his furlough had expired until he returned and reported to his company.

They gave the backs of their hands to deserters and dictated that "no allowance be made to the family of any deserter after he is published and ascertained to be such."

Qualified dependents were allotted one bushel of grain per adult per month and a half bushel for each child. Widows of indigent soldiers who were killed in the line of duty were to be furnished with supplies as per "the former orders of the Court."

There were Commissioners appointed for each Magisterial District who were charged with the responsibility for issuing the rations only to people in their respective districts. Coleman D. Bennett was appointed Chairman of the Commission and given a salary of five hundred dollars for his services.

The court closed the meeting by ordering that the Committee of Pensions, previously appointed, to attend to the county's sick and wounded soldiers be required to continue their services and to report out of pocket expenses "from time to time." Some of the measures seem drastic and harsh by modern standards - especially the one requiring twelve-year-olds to be self-sufficient. However demanding the order may seem to be on the surface, it was enacted at a time that required children above the puberty stage act as men. After all, there were innumerable instances when only "young boys and old men" were available to face the fire of an oncoming enemy.

Shortages of elements necessary for survival came well before the time of the above court entry. Salt, for example, was in such short supply that a Salt Agent was appointed to procure and distribute the ration of that item to each citizen. The position was filled by Mr. James Lovelace, an honorably discharged veteran with good family connections. In any case, it seemed foreordained that the meat rations mentioned above would be rancid.

Conditions at home in Pittsylvania County were hard in that era, but not nearly so bad as those endured by Confederate soldiers at places such as Manassas, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Fort Donelson and others.



#### **HENRY'S MILL AS IT APPEARED IN AN 1890 OIL PAINTING**

This oil painting by Miss Sally Ingram hangs in "Woodlawn," the old Henry home at Henry's Mill, as the only known illustration of the mill once owned by Patrick Henry's cousin. (See story on page 18.)

Photo courtesy of Julia Henry Farson, now deceased

## May 1996 Queries

(Free to members to aid others with similar interests.)

Seeking information on the parents of George Washington CRAYNE, b. 3 April 1823 in VA. His father was born in VA. or PA. and his mother in VA. sometime before 1841. He migrated to Green Co., IL where he married Elizabeth NEECE. Thank You. Joanne CRAYNE, 2612 Dorine Way, Sacramento, Calif.

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James WATKINS lived near Whitmell, VA and was a member of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church there. His children: 1 Sally: b. ca. 1775. Married 1795 to Rev. John ATKINSON who pastored the Mill Church in Pittsylvania Co. Where was Mill Church? 2. Mary married Booker BOWMAN, 1808. Where did they live? 3. Elizabeth married Wiley JAMES and lived in NC. 4. Nancy married John W. THOMAS and lived in Henry Co., VA. I need help on these names please. Ruth BOCK 5402 S. County Road, 1210 Midland, TX 79703.

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I am looking for information on John and Robert/Robin BOWMER or other members of the BOWMER/BOMER family that lived in Pittsylvania County between 1769-1790. Allied families are the COLLINS family and the DILLARD family. All these families are originally from Culpeper Co. Thank you Linda HANSEN, 4530 W. Kyle Dr. Kearns, Utah 84118. (801)-966-5492.

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Seeking information on Nathan R. SAUNDERS whom. Rebecca PARSONS born to John and Penelope PARSONS on 15 Jan. 1827 in Pittsylvania Co. Also information on William G. MAYS who m. Eddie WALKER on 12 Dec. 1865. The MAYS children were Hester, Ferdinand, William Robert Alexander, Katherine, Bernadine, Dallas and James. Write to Sallie J. MOORE, 2807 21st St. NE, Hickory, NC 28601

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Searching for information about Samuel HARRIS (1) who married Nancy OVERTON in Charlotte County in 1792. Samuel moved to Pittsylvania County in 1808. His son Samuel HARRIS (2) born about 1802 married Martha PRITCHETT in 1824. Had following children: William Overton HARRIS, James Arthur HARRIS, Samuel Justis HARRIS (3) Lenora J. HARRIS, Matilda M. HARRIS, Ann R. HARRIS. Also additional children by two later wives. Sarah ELLIOTT, and Rita F. PAYNE. Please contact Robert H. HARRIS, 6022 Meadowbrook Drive, Norcross, GA. 30093.

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Please forward me a name of anyone in your society who might be doing research on the WALTON family of Pittsylvania and Halifax. Gideon WALTON m. Martha WALTON 1831 Halifax County; died before 1850 with inventory in Pittsylvania County. (Need help). Thank you Margaret D. STUDEBAKER, 8339 Avignon Dr., Bon Air, VA 23235.

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Thank you for publishing my inquiry in the winter issue of The Pittsylvania Packet. There was an error either on my part or in transcription. The correction is as follows:

Naamon MAHAN (71810-) m. 1837 Elizabeth K. SMITH (c 1818-1889)

Richard ROYALL (1765-1819) m. 1801 Elizabeth Maynard ROYSTER

I am seeking information on ancestors or descendants of the above.

Rita Marshall BAGBY, 9204 Lyndonway Drive, Richmond, VA 23229.

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## (QUERIES -- CONTINUED)

Am continuing the research of the WATSONS of Pittsylvania County, as proven back thru Louisa, Hanover, New Kent and York Counties, Virginia. My line is Nathan Watson, b. 5 September 1742, Louisa County, VA, 1st Lt., the American Revolution from Pittsylvania County, VA. All information will be greatly appreciated and reciprocated. Lois JOHNSON, 7887 S. Forest Street, Littleton, CO 80122-3836.

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Some of my known ancestors came from Henrico Co. and Halifax Co., VA. They were BOYD and ATKINSON (spelled various ways such as ADKISSON, ADKINS, ATKISSON, ATKENSON, AKERSON, ATKEYSON and there have been others, even in the same families). The BOYD line seems to be spelled the same way. Thanks. Irene A. WALLS, 306 Hannah Drive, Oliver Springs, TN 37840.

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Would appreciate any information on the family of Richard PARSONS, will probated Pittsylvania Co., 1785 lists wife Rachel, daughters Hannah MIDKIFF (sp Joseph), Agnes MIDKIFF (sp John), Lydia YATES (sp Stephen), sons Joseph (sp Margaret Peggy GRIFITH), George, John, Samuel and William. Also, any information on Peter James BAILEY, brother John Carroll BAILEY was a Baptist Minister in Pittsylvania in the late 1700s, would be greatly appreciated. Peter was a seaman on the Tartar in the Navy of Virginia during the Revolution. He made his oath of allegiance in 1777 in Pittsylvania Co. Donna PRICE, 7771 S. Foresthill Court, Littleton, CO 80120.

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Seek information on the family of James CURRY who died in Pittsylvania, VA. ca. 1809. His wife's name was Margaret (?). Their sons were James, b. 1760 in Va m. Margaret GARDNER, Isaac, b. 1762 in VA m. Rhoda GRESHAM, Bartholomew m. Roxanna Nuchols, Nathan b. VA d. 1807 VA m. Nancy GRESHAM 1790 Pittsylvania VA. Israel b. 1775 m. Sarah PAYNE 1795, Pittsylvania VA. Thomas m. Nancy CRAIN 1802 Va. George, John and Charles.

I descend from Nathan and Nancy GRESHAM. Their children included Thomas G. George, Leah, Isaac, Lydia and Margaret (aka Peggy) (b. 1804 in Pittsylvania, VA. m. 1823 Maury Co. TN to my GGGF Charles B. HARRIS, b. 1800) Most of these families moved to TN, IL, and KY. Sincerely yours, Jeanne Harris BRUCK, 5920 North Camino Escalante, Tucson, AZ 85718-4114.

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I would like to place a query: FITZGERALD, HOLLOWAY, ANDERSON. Seeking information on John FITZGERALD who m. Jane HOLLOWAY, 17 Feb. 1843. Need name of his first wife and children by that marriage, parents and siblings. Would like information on Samuel FITZGERALD who was John's son. He married Nancy ANDERSON, 20 October 1817 in Pittsylvania Co. She was daughter of Jacob ANDERSON of Pittsylvania Co., too. Am also seeking information on Phillip PREWITT, who m. Anne FRANKLIN ca. 1787. They had daughter, Sarah (Sally) PRUETT. Mrs. Patsy EDWARDS, P.O. Box 568, Pearsall, TX 78061. Ph. 210-334-3777.

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Need information on BOOTH/HARVEY lineage. Did Richard E. BOOKER serve in the American Revolution? Need proof. If not in military, was he a sympathizer? I need names and proof of 5th, 6th and 7th generations of BOOKER family. Can anyone give me information on the HARVEY family. We believe there is a HARVEY burial ground near the BOOKER farm. William L. BOOTH 915 W. Anderson Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85023.

Need to learn identity of the father of my 3rd great-grandfather, Saunders WARREN, who was born in Pittsylvania County in 1783. Believe he was either John or Henry WARREN both of whom were Pittsylvania County residents then. Court Order Book 20 page 188 may provide clue. It reads: "December Court 1823. It is ordered that the Overseer of the poor to put out Eliz., Elizabeth, Elisha, Cassy, Saunders, Susanna and Mary WARREN orps. (?) of John Warren dec'd according to law." Does anyone know what this passage means? Thanks!

Barry WARREN, 11802 Carson Rd., Mason Neck, VA 22079 Ph. 703-339-4185.

\*\*\*\*\*

Seeking information on the Father and Grandmother of John Henry MERRICKS, b. 1774? d. 6-22-1854 in Pittsylvania County. John Henry MERRICKS is the Father of Micajah Hopson MERRICKS, b. 4-22-1819, d. 6-12-1885 in Pittsylvania County, VA.

Anne Merricks TOLLEY, 12124 Merricks Ct., Monrovia, MD 21770 Ph. 301-831-6466.

## The Lord Is My Archivist

The Lord is my Archivist

I shall not lack for records of past generations.

He helps me find primary documents.

He enlightens my mind and fills my computer with data.

He points me to collateral branches that yield surprising rewards, so I may inform future generations of their past heritage.

Yes, I walk in an age of dangerous.

Carefree, and "throw away" society.

Your challenge to evaluate historical truth

And the faith of our Fathers assures me.

You preserve census and land grants that give vital data.

You anoint my mind with patriotism, my files overflow.

Surely wisdom and accuracy will keep me always

That my faith in God will bring freedom for generations to come.

--By Ila Hayworth Breeden

*From Hood County Genealogical Society, Granbury, Texas*

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES

If not, please pass on to Jeanette Brown at or before the May meeting. It will make her job a lot easier.

Thanks, HEM

## IF YOU WERE BORN BEFORE 1945

Consider the changes you have witnessed. We were born before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, Frisbees, and the Pill!

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens. Before panty hose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, dripdry clothes, and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. How quaint can you be? In our time, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of." Bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer Jeans were scheming girls named Jean, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with our cousins.

We thought "fast food" was what you ate during Lent. We were before house-husbands, homosexual rights, computer dating, dual careers, and computer marriages. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electronic typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt and guys wearing ear-rings. For us, "time sharing" meant togetherness, not computers and condominiums. A "chip" meant a piece of wood, hardware meant hardware, and "software" wasn't even a word.

Back then, "Made in Japan" meant junk and the term "making out" referred to how well you did on your exams. Pizzas, MacDonalds and instant coffee were unheard of. We hit the scene when there were 5 & 10 cent stores, where you could buy things for 5 & 10 cents! For a nickel you could ride a street car, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi, or enough stamps to mail one letter and two post cards. You could buy a Chevy coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity too, because gas was 11 cents a gallon! And Burma-Shave was known by all us kids.

In our day, grass was mowed, Coke was a cold drink, and "pot" was something you cooked in. Rock music was Grandma's lullaby and "Aids" meant helpers in the Principal's office. We'd never heard of sex change operations.

We made do with what we had. And we were the last generation that was so "dumb" as to think you needed a husband to have a baby.

No wonder we were so confused and that there is such a generation gap today

Thanks to THE JUBILEE, Midpines, Fla.  
Presented by: THE GRUBSTAKES  
1017 Grubstake Road  
Hamilton, Mont. 59840

### THE PACKET'S COMING ATTRACTIONS

General Longstreet's visit to Pittsylvania County in 1864.  
"Fast and Perfect": The old Franklin & Pittsylvania R.R.  
Ole' Joe Clark: The source of a square dance song.

## GLEANINGS FROM OUR READERS

Dear Susan,

Enclosed is a check for \$12 to purchase the publication written by Roger Dodson, "Footprints from the Old Survey Books." I am a member of your society and only wish I lived near enough to help in someway. I look forward to getting each copy and enjoy reading and re-reading.

Thank you for all the time each of you spends helping us to put a little piece of our puzzle together. "It's a great hobby."

Margaret D. Studebaker, 8339 Avignon Dr., Bon Air, VA 23235

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Dear Mrs. Brown ,

Enclosed you will find my personal check for my 1996 membership dues.

The Packet continues to be an informative and very useful publication , and I send my congratulations to all who are involved in its production.

The article on Page 5, "The Willow Del Commissary" in the most recent issue, is very interesting since I am a Pittsylvania County Watson descendant. (Query enclosed - Ed.)

Lois Johnson, 7887 S. Forest St. Littleton, Colo.

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Dear Mrs. Brown,

I am enclosing a check for my 1996 membership dues and a subscription to The Packet for one year.

Thanks to Mr. Herman Melton, who so kindly answered my query about some of my ancestors in Virginia.

I'm sure to enjoy The Packet as I really enjoy genealogy. Enclosed is another query for the August issue.

Irene Walls, 306 Hannah Drive, Oliver Springs, TN 37840

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Dear Mrs. Brown,

I received my first copy of The Packet earlier this week, and I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. Of particular interest was the second query concerning the Curry and Gar(d)ner family. I immediately responded to it with some family information.

Only recently I discovered that I descend from James Curry and Margaret (?) who lived and died in Pittsylvania County. I found research done by Helen Robinson of Pueblo, CO who had received the Curry family and filled in some blanks.

Jean Harris Bruck, 5920 North Camino Escalante, Tucson, AZ 85718-4114.

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Dear Mrs. Brown,

My apologies for not renewing sooner, but it looked like I might be leaving Japan. Am enclosing my check for two more years.

Even though I have never set foot in Pittsylvania County, your material helps one to visualize what life was like when my ancestors lived there. Hopefully, I will be able to visit some day. In the meantime, Best regards and again my apologies for sending a delayed renewal. Don Houk, % K-Line America Inc., 33 Market, 25th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105-2102.

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Dear Mrs. Brown,

I am enclosing \$10 to start my membership in the Historical Society.

First I would like to thank Mr. Melton for his letter and the issue of The Packet. I really appreciated your help.

Mrs. Patsy Edwards, P.O. Box 568, Pearsall, TX 78061 Ph. 210-334-3777.

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## The Grave Site of Thomas Jones Sr.

### *A Revolutionary War Soldier From Shockoe*

In the Fall 1995 issue of The Packet was a story concerning the location of the graves of Pittsylvania County's Revolutionary War soldiers. It was noted that the list acquired from the DAR indicated that the location of the grave of Thomas Jones Sr. was unknown and an appeal was made by The Packet for information about the location of graves of other soldiers of that war. A good response was forthcoming.

Society member, Frances E. Parker of Rosemead, California, a descendant of Thomas Jones Sr. sent a note and a clipping from the October 1993 issue of the Chatham *Star-Tribune* that identified the location of the above mentioned patriot's resting place.

The article was written by that newspaper's ace reporter and PHS Corresponding Secretary, Susan Worley. Her article noted that Jones was honored the previous Sunday by the Dan River Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution. The ceremony was held at the old Jones family cemetery off County Route 895 east of Chatham in the Shockoe Community. Tenth generation descendants and relatives from as far away as Tennessee were among the thirty people present to honor the patriot who was the first of the Jones family to arrive in Pittsylvania County. He enlisted in the Pittsylvania branch of the Virginia Militia on September 27, 1775. Jones was believed to have been with General Green and other Pittsylvanians at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

Thomas Jones Sr. was a large landowner with holdings of 460 acres south of the Banister River and land grants on Pigg River, Cherrystone Creek and Mill Creek. His home, known as "Mountain Top" was on White Oak Mountain but burned long ago.

Fortunately for posterity, the patriot's grave and that of other family members were guarded by a durable two feet thick stone wall measuring forty feet square. The grave was sheltered by giant trees and obscured by undergrowth.

Leading the search for the cemetery was a descendant of Jones - Marion Williamson of Blairs, VA - who secured assistance from the Sons of the Revolution. The search party including Larry Aaron, Chapter President, hacked their way through the undergrowth until they came upon the hallowed site. The 200 year old cemetery wall, which measures forty feet square, was restored as grave markers were righted and the area cleared. The find is a story with a happy ending.

Editor's note: Thanks Frances. The county needs more dedicated effort such as this in preserving the past. Meanwhile, The Packet says: *macte virtute!* to Marion Williamson and the Sons of the Revolution.

# "The Mill On The Great Rock"

Henry's Mill In Pittsylvania County.  
Once Owned By Patrick Henry's Cousin

By Herman Melton

By the time darkness settled on eastern Pittsylvania County on St. Patrick's Day in 1912, floodwaters on the raging Banister River had swept away its last remaining bridge. Sunday, March 17 would be long remembered by county residents who lived along the Banister and its tributaries as their worst flood in memory.

Headlines on the Danville Register blared the frightening story.

## TRAIN SERVICE IS HANDICAPPED

### NO SERVICE OUT OF DANVILLE DUE TO HIGH WATER

The accompanying news story told of the destruction of most of the county bridges (some of which were described as "substantial iron structures") and the blocking of most of the county's roads. The destruction of mills, bridges and buildings was vast and according to the story "perhaps never before has there been so much damage to county property by floods as has this experience."

Several of the county's twenty or so grist mills in operation suffered severe damage. At least three were put out of commission for months. Grubb Mill on Bearskin Creek and Henry's Mill on Sandy Creek of the Banister suffered fatal blows. Both were founded in the Eighteenth century. The latter was more historically important because of the identity of its owners. Moreover, Henry's Mill was better known to Pittsylvaniaans because of its remarkable setting.

Halifax County Court Records indicate that the mill was built by a prominent Halifax County planter named Griffith Dickerson in 1762 - five years before the founding of Pittsylvania County.

Dickerson appeared to be eager to divest himself of the property when he sold it to John Lewis, a western Halifax large landowner for "150 pounds current money."

Dickerson's Mill had a 25 acre tract of land included and was described by Dickerson in a transaction as "The mill standing on the same run as the Great Rock."

That was an apt description since one of the area's largest rock outcropping underpins the mill site which, coincidentally, was purchased by James Henry on St. Patrick's Day in 1774, exactly 138 years before its destruction by floodwaters in 1912.

During that 138 years, the mill was owned continuously by the Henry family - a record for mill ownership in the county. It has been known as Henry's Mill since that time and became a landmark on the county line and the most popular summer recreation spot in the region.

Judge James Henry (a cousin of the famous patriot, Patrick Henry) willed all his property to his children and left Henry's Mill with 10,000 acres of land to his son, John. It is an interesting fact that he owned another mill at Atlas on Burch Creek at the same time which he willed to his son, Charles. Fifty years later that mill became the nucleus of the famous Birch Creek Works that was owned by the Flippins.

The building of the famous Henry plantation mansion, "Woodlawn," has been credited to John Henry. This architectural gem is the only existing eighteenth century structure in Pittsylvania County given the 'very high' rating by the

National Trust for Historic Preservation. "Woodlawn" remains one of the most frequently visited sites by out of town visitors to Pittsylvania County to this day.

It was a latter day James Henry who rebuilt Henry's Mill into a flourishing grist and sawmill operation in 1845. That structure was apparently a part of the mill damaged in the 1912 freshet. However, so secure was it on its massive rock foundation that it survived the St. Patrick's Day deluge. Upstream of the mill's dam sat a large covered bridge which was lifted from its moorings by the rolling waters. Its mass was swept downstream carrying the dam with it. For reasons dimmed by antiquity, the dam was never rebuilt, and the mill became idled forever.

This was not the end of Henry's Mill however, since it became the area's most popular summer picnic and swimming spot. For the next half century it was a mecca for county families on summer Sunday afternoons. Its attraction was enhanced by the founding of the old Pittsylvania County Baseball League. By the 1940s, the site was in the hands of George Farson Jr. and his wife, Julie Henry Farson. George was a fine baseball player and manager who organized the Henry's Mill Millers, whipped them into a contending ball club and built one of the finest playing fields in the league. The field is cultivated now, but is clearly visible a stone's throw from the old mill site.

Attendance was always good when the Millers entertained a visiting team on a hot afternoon. While the men watched the game, their wives and children frolicked in the waters of Sandy Creek below the mill. The "Great Rock" provided a natural water world where youngsters of all ages waded in the many pools, cooled themselves and tested their water skills in the rapids. Mother Nature kindly provided an expanse of sandy "beach" for the mothers to relax upon while their charges romped in the pictureque stream.

With the coming of the "Age of Affluence," the proliferation of backyard swimming pools and the advent of television and "widescreen" movies, Henry's Mill lost its preeminence as a recreation spot for eastern Halifax and western Pittsylvania County residents.

However, the site remains as pristine and beautiful as ever. Moreover, stories still abound because almost every eastern Pittsylvania County senior citizen has a favorite story about the fun days at Henry's Mill.

Young George Farson III, who lives nearby, played under his father and starred as a catcher at the University of Virginia. Unless he is away on one of his scouting trips for the major leagues he may be found tilling the soil on the old Henry plantation acreage on any given day. He may even be found on a tractor on the site of the ball park.

If the romantic has listened intently enough to the stories and sits quietly and long enough on the "Great Rock," he or she can hear the splashing of water on an old wooden overshot water wheel that once turned noisily there by the force of Sandy Creek.

One might also hear the distant crack of a bat and the roar of the crowd at a grand slammer driven over the 20 foot high cedar tree that still stands where was once deep center field. The hitter could have been Lynn Rogers, Candy Adams, Elliott McCormick, Paul Eanes, Maurice Oakes or a score of others. Some of these home runs at Henry's Mill would have gone out of Yankee Stadium no doubt.

**Editor's Note: The above is excerpted from his book:  
PITTSYLVANIA'S EIGHTEENTH CENTURY GRIST MILLS.**

## FURGUSON PAPERS AT UNC CONTAIN CHATHAM GREYS ROLL BOOK

by Henry H. Mitchell

Joel Shelton of Gretna brought to my attention "Damage Control," an article by Pat Furgurson in the March 1993 issue of Mid-Atlantic Country, in which Furgurson mentions the papers of his great-grandfather Robert Ferguson (yes, we already have three spellings of the Furguson name in just a few lines of writing!). Author Furgurson reported that his ancestor was a sergeant in Company I, 53rd Virginia Infantry (the Chatham Greys), and that his papers at UNC contain the company roll book.

Such a reference was enough to make mandatory a stop at the Wilson Library on my family's next trip to Chapel Hill.

In the meantime, the *Packet* provided a list of 205 Chatham Grey enlistees in the Winter 1994 edition. It should be noted that the Furguson roll book contains some names and incidents not in the *Packet* roll; on the other hand, some of Furguson's entries have variant spelling which seem to differ, but can be reconciled with the *Packet* list. This article is intended to be only a brief report of the Furguson papers, and not a thorough analysis of its contents in the context of previously-published documentation of the Chatham Greys.

The papers were a gift to the Southern Historical Collection at the UNC Wilson Library by Dr. William M. Copridge, 1024 Forest Hill Boulevard West, Durham, NC, in January 1954. Dr. Copridge's gift is now item #2988Z in the collection, and provides "an unbound manuscript booklet containing a ledger, 1851, for general merchandise and day labor accounts; and records relating to 'Co. I' 53rd Virginia Infantry, in which R. D. Ferguson was 2nd sgt., as follows:

"List of wounded; of ordnance stores; of men paid in hospitals; of men dropped from roll; of men that leaves camp

"1864, June 28, a company roll (copy to be carried by each non-commissioned officer at all times).

"1864, Oct. 10, General Order concerning the issue and accounting for clothing and blankets.

"1864, Nov. 24, Certificate concerning discharge in 1862 of Jessie T. Abbott.

"Two undated company rolls, for 'Nov. & Dec.' and 'Jan. & Feb.' #"

Along with the Furguson originals are a set of Virginia State Library 1946 photostat copies, and an issue of *The Visitor*, Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 2, 1910, a Methodist newspaper for young people.

Following are excerpts from the roll book, as written by Ferguson:

Dannel, D. T. shot for desertion July 25, 1864

Mitchell, J. S. shot for desertion July 23, 1864

#### List of Wounded in Co. i, 53 Va. Regt.

April 13	Lieut. C. Bilharz in arm & leg
	1 Sergt. Z. P. Walker Seriously in head
	Pvts. Bradley Wm. Seriously in head
	Barber, Chs. in left hand
	Bradshaw, E. H. in leg
	E. C. Linthicum in hand
16	E. T. Sowers in leg
July 8	Capt. Wm. M. Treadway in breast
2	Corp. Zeanus Carter in head
3.	S. S. Cook in head
	J. E. Jones in knee
	G. W. Chiswell in leg
	J. D. G. Corbin in side
	J. S. Cusins in thigh
	A. Fackler in arm
	D. W. Haden in Shoulder
	A. F. Hatchet in side
	W. H. Holley in leg
	J. H. Meadows, Jr. in head
	J. N. Biddle in foot

T. C. Biddle in hip  
 July 8 W. B. Simpson in leg  
 G. W. White in foot

1864

May 10 Lieut H. T. Carter Slitely in leg  
 Corp. F. S. Cook rite thy broke since dide  
 Corp. A. Fackler slitly in left sholder  
 Privates W. T. Bradley in hand and hip  
 J. H. Echols mortally in Bowells Since dide  
 W. B. Riddle in left hip  
 W. B. Simpson Killed on the field  
 G. W. White in hip

May 16 Bradshaw, E. H. Severley in left side  
 J. G. Cousins painfully in leg  
 J. W. Meadors, Jr. severly in foot  
 W. S. Ramsey severley in leg  
 N. Riddige mortally in head since dide  
 T. C. Shelton slitely

1865

Feb 17 C. D. Hurley slitely in hand  
 G. W. Shelton killed in pickett fite  
 Corp. J. M. Readford wounded in Shoulder



#### PICKERAL'S CROSSING

This 1922 U.S. Geodetic Survey Map shows the route of the old F&P R.R. and the village of Pickeral on the road from Elba (Gretna) to Pittsville.

## THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Those who attended the February meeting were privileged to hear the area's best authority on the life and times of the Langhorne sisters - Lady Astor and Irene Gibson of Danville. After presenting an account of the immensely interesting lives of the famous sisters, author/historian Gary Grant recounted the remarkable story of how he and a few other dedicated conservationists saved the childhood home of the Langhorns from extinction. Happily, the house has been restored to its original appearance and the Lady Astor Trust founded to maintain its perpetual care. Members left with a greater appreciation and respect for the Langhorns, who are the most famous sisters the area ever produced. Gary made an impressive presentation, and *The Packet* sends its thanks to Frances Hurt for arranging such an outstanding program.

### SCRAPS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Your President has been working closely with Asst. Co. Administrator, Otis Hawker, on improving the condition of Pittsylvania's historic buildings. The Packet is pleased to report that the cost of a new roof for the Callands Courthouse has been budgeted. To all PHS members: Keep your fingers crossed and hope that this item survives the budget hearings. Meanwhile, from all of us: Thanks and God bless you Otis.

On behalf of the Society, the PACKET acknowledges a generous gift from Lynn Gochenour of Swoope, Va. and Martha Piazza of Woodbridge to be used to paint the basement walls of Yates Tavern. Thanks folks! The Society appreciates your support. It is an appropriate time to thank Virginia Hunt, Margaret Midkiff, Garnett Aylor and others of Gretna for their efforts on behalf of Yates Tavern over the years.

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**THE PACKET" -- Published by the  
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Box 1148 -- Chatham, Virginia -- Phone (804) 432-2172  
Herman Melton, President & Editor of "The Packet"**

**Frances Hurt, Vice President      Susan Worley, Corresponding Secty.  
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Directors: Norman Amos, Virginia Chapin, James "Mack" Doss, Alice Overbey,  
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**DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRE!**

# THE PACKET - Box 1148 - Chatham, VA 24531

**THE PACKET** is the quarterly publication of the Pittsylvania Historical Society for members and those who are interested in the history of their families and the area in which they lived.

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